REMARKS

These remarks respond to the Office Action mailed November 15, 2004. Claims 1-2 are pending in the application.

Drawings

In the Office Action, the Examiner objected to the drawings as not properly crosshatched. Figs. 2, 3, 4, 6, and 7 have been corrected to properly reflect the substrates as nonconductive materials in accordance with MPEP § 608.02.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-2 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,828,555 to Itoh. Itoh is directed to a multilayer printed-circuit board having coaxial features such as, for example, inner-layer signal line 33 and ground layer 34 separated from one another by frame member 35. Holes 40, 41 separate adjacent metallic strip members 80, 81 from one another. In Fig. 8, cited by the Examiner, the holes 40D, 41D are filled by strip members 80, 81 coated with solder 82. (*See* col. 5, lines 43-60.)

In Itoh, the conductors or metallic strip members 80, 81 entirely fill the slots as shown in Fig. 8. The slots do not extend "through the dielectric layer beneath said conductors," as specifically recited in paragraph (c) of independent claim 1. Thus, Itoh fails to disclose or suggest all of the elements of this claim.

Claim 2 is patentably distinguishable over the prior art at least by virtue of its dependence on independent claim 1.

As it is believed that all of the rejections set forth in the Official Action have been fully met, favorable reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

If, however, for any reason the Examiner does not believe that such action can be taken at this time, it is respectfully requested that he telephone applicant's attorney at

(908) 654-5000 in order to overcome any additional objections which he might have.

If there are any additional charges in connection with this requested amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-1095 therefor.

Dated: April 15, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

By _____

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IN THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to Figs. 2, 3, 4, 6, and 7. In all of these figures, the hatching of the substrates has been modified to properly reflect a nonconductive material.

Attachments: Replacement Sheets
Annotated Sheets Showing Changes

FIG. 1

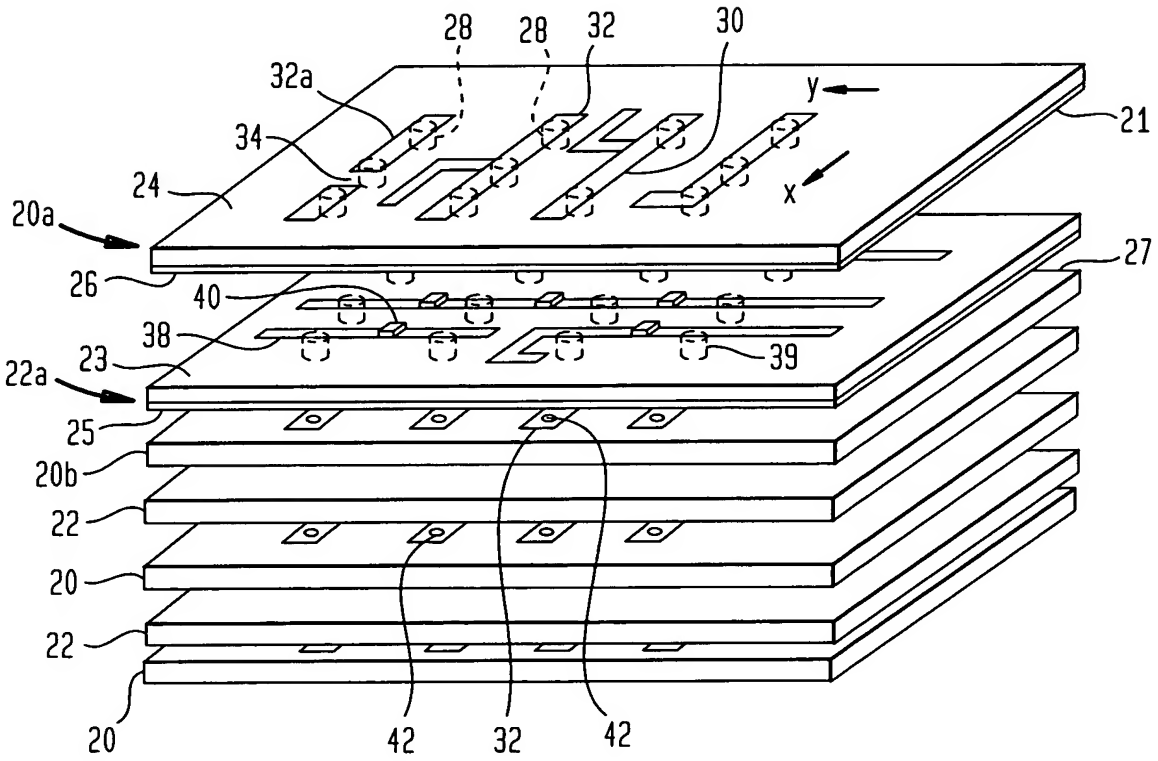
28
28
32
30
32a
y
21
34
24
x
20a
27
26
40
38
39
23
22a
25
20b
22
20
22
20
42
32
42

FIG. 2

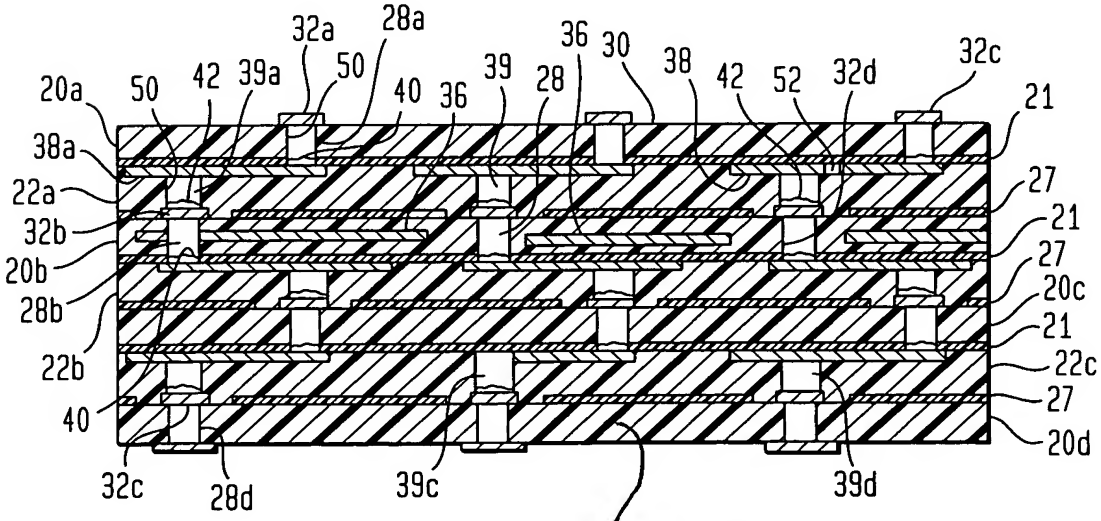
32a
28a
36
30
32c
20a
50
42
39a
50
40
36
39
28
38
42
52
32d
21
38a
27
22a
21
32b
27
20b
20c
28b
21
22b
22c
40
27
20d
32c
28d
39c
39d
substrate layers have been crosshatched to show nonconductive material.

FIG. 3

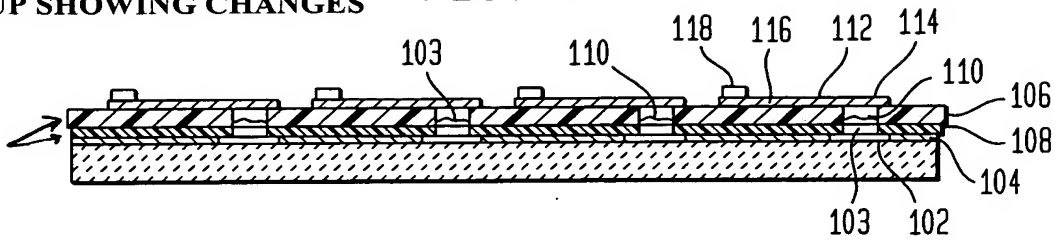

FIG. 4

substrate layers have been crosshatched to show nonconductive material.

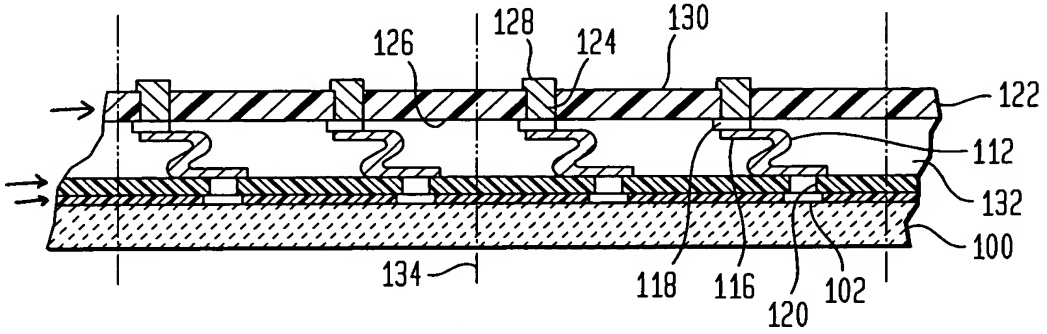

FIG. 5

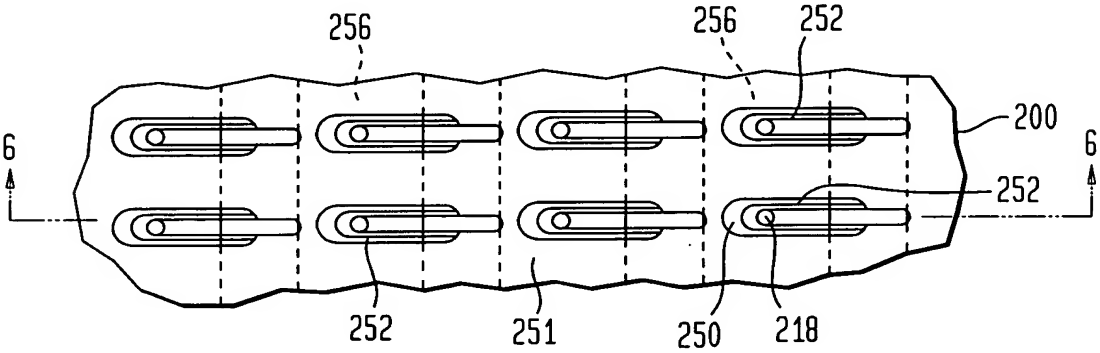

FIG. 6

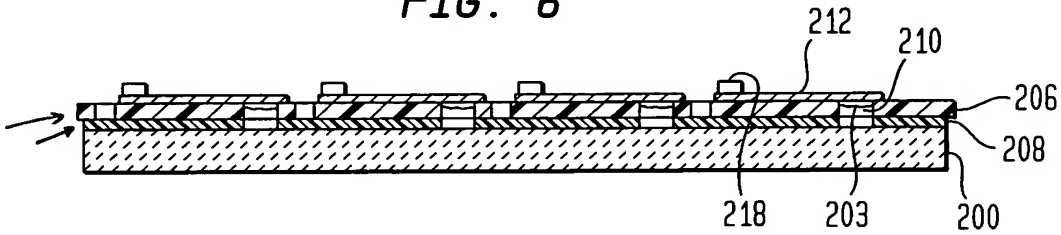
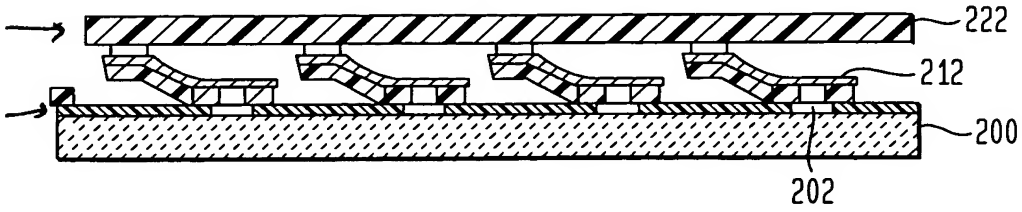
FIG. 7